United Nations E/CN.18/2007/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 February 2007

Original: English

United Nations Forum on Forests
Seventh session
New York, 16-27 April 2007
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Multi-year programme of work.
4. Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests.
5. Multi-stakeholder dialogue.
6. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.
7. Dates and venue for the eighth session of the Forum.
8. Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Forum.
9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its seventh session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the United Nations Forum on Forests shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairperson and such other officers as may be required (see E/5975/Rev.1). According to Council resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000 establishing the Forum, the Bureau shall consist of a Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom shall also act as the Rapporteur, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

On 24 February 2006, at the first meeting of its seventh session, the Forum elected Mr. Cristian Maquieira (Chile) and Mr. Hamidon Ali (Malaysia) as members of the Bureau for the seventh session of the Forum. It postponed the election of the

07-22903 (E) 160207

members from the African States, Eastern European States and Western European and Other States Groups to a later meeting. Since the first meeting, the secretariat of the Forum has received the following nominations for the remaining positions on the Bureau:

- Mr. André-Jules Madingou (Gabon) on behalf of the Group of African States
- Mr. Arvids Ozols (Latvia) on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States
- Mr. Hans Hoogeveen (the Netherlands) on behalf of the Group of Western European and Other States

The Forum may wish to elect Mr. Hans Hoogeveen (the Netherlands) as Chairperson and Mr. Arvids Ozols and André-Jules Madingou (Gabon) as Vice-Chairpersons. The Forum may also wish to designate Mr. Cristian Maquieira (Chile) to serve as Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Forum shall, at the beginning of the session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Provisional annotated agenda (E/CN.18/2007/1)

3. Multi-year programme of work

By paragraph 10 of its resolution 2006/49, the Economic and Social Council decided that, following its seventh session in 2007, the Forum shall meet biennially for a period of up to two weeks on the basis of a focused multi-year programme of work to be adopted by the Forum at its seventh session. Bearing in mind that the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests will be reviewed in 2015, the Forum, at its current session, is required to formulate and adopt a multi-year programme of work that would include a description and scheduling of the tasks for the period 2008-2015.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the multi-year programme of work (E/CN.18/2007/2)

4. Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

By paragraph 26 of its resolution 2006/49, the Economic and Social Council requested the Forum to conclude and adopt, at its seventh session, a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests. In order to facilitate this work it also decided, by paragraph 29 of the same resolution, that the Forum should convene an open-ended ad hoc expert group to consider the content of the non-legally binding instrument. Prior to the meeting of experts, the secretariat circulated to member States a compilation of the draft indicative elements and other proposals submitted by members during the sixth session, as well as further proposals submitted by 30 June 2006. The comments on this compilation, as requested by the Council, were also submitted to all member States.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat on the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (E/CN.18/2007/3)

Report of the open-ended ad hoc expert group on the consideration of the content of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (E/CN.18/AC.1/2006/4)

5. Multi-stakeholder dialogue

At its first session in 2001, the Forum noted the value of considering stakeholder perspectives in advancing its work. The Forum decided that multi-stakeholder dialogues, open to the nine major groups identified in Agenda 21, would be held at each session, beginning at its second session. Based on consultations with major groups on the planning of this year's multi-stakeholder dialogue, the Bureau decided that for the seventh session, under agenda item 5, a plenary discussion would be held to present both what are considered to be priority areas of action by stakeholders with respect to the multi-year programme of work as well as salient themes and perspectives on the non-legally binding instrument. The Forum will have before it a note by the secretariat and five discussion papers submitted by major groups.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat transmitting discussion papers submitted by major groups (E/CN.18/2007/4)

6. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

At its first session in 2001, the Forum decided to develop and maintain contacts, cooperate and make active efforts to develop synergies with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as other relevant international and regional processes and organizations, institutions and instruments. The Forum will have before it for its consideration a report of the Secretary-General and an information document on the activities of the Collaborative Partnership, entitled "Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2007".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination (E/CN.18/2007/5)

Informational document: Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2007 (E/CN.18/2007/6)

7. Dates and venue for the eighth session of the Forum

The Forum shall decide upon the dates and venue for the eighth session.

8. Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Forum

The Forum shall recommend to the Economic and Social Council for adoption a provisional agenda for the eighth session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its seventh session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Forum shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its session.